

### New Zealand Mission

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GARDNER, William, president of the New Zealand Mission from 1914 to 1918, died Feb. 4, 1932, in Salt Lake City. (See Bio. Ency., Vol. 3, p. 379.)

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and with all her intimate associations and opportunities to know secrets of lives she was ever considerate of others. If she could not say something good about them, she said nothing at all.

In the neighborhood she was called Aunt Maggie by young and old, later on she was called lovingly Grandma Miller. From the day her brother's wife came to stay with them in the new home, it was always open to friends, and most of her life she had others than her family living in her home. Her father had four wives and many children and his business brought him to Salt Lake City quite often and for years when he and the brothers and sisters came to the city, they always stayed at Aunt Mary's or Aunt Maggie's place.

While she had many hardships, she also had many pleasures. She enjoyed dancing the Quadrille and the Virginia Reel and the old time quilting parties and rag bees. But most of all she loved people and her keenest pleasure were visiting her many brothers and sisters and her husband's large family of relatives.

On October 14, 1930, surrounded by her many friends and loved ones, she died as she had lived, peacefully, and quietly. She was 86 years old.

"Rest, gentle heart—while through the mist of tears  
The rainbow promise unto us appears,  
You are not far removed, and we shall  
Be long, your smile of love and welcom

She and Reuben P. Miller were married on by Daniel H. Wells in the old endowment house children: Reuben E. Miller who was born to Robert G. Miller, April 20, 1872; David O. Miller, Uriah G. Miller, November 28, 1874; Maggie Miller, 1878; Edith Lyle Miller, August 7, 1879; Melvin, 30, 1882; Ernest F. Miller, April 30, 1884.



### WILLIAM GARDNER

William Gardner was born May 22, 1846, while traveling with the pioneers on their way to Utah. They arrived in Salt Lake City on October 1, 1847.

As a boy William worked with his father at the lumber mill and hauled logs with an ox-team to the mill. He moved with his father to Southern Utah in 1862. There he and his father built one of the first mills that had a circular saw, in Pine Valley.

William married Almeda Burgess about 1859 by whom he had two daughters, Effie May and Amanda Jane. His wife died in 1872. He married Mary Jane Thomas about 1872 and they had four girls and two boys.

In 1880 he was chosen as counselor to Bishop F. W. Jones and continued in that position until the winter of 1884 when he was called on a mission to New Zealand. He left Pine Valley the latter part of April and was gone three years and eight months, having filled a very useful mission among the Maories. He lived among them, learned their ways and traditions and inborn qualities of honesty.

They, in turn, appreciated his sense of humor and high character and loved and respected him.

During his mission he came in contact with a minister who was working among the Europeans. He challenged William to a debate. The minister spoke first and gave his talk in Latin. William had not studied Latin but spoke fluently in the native tongue of the island. He felt quite worried because he thought the minister and the audience would expect the answer to be in Latin. The inspiration came to William to answer in the Maori language. One of the missionary companions who heard him said that William spoke more fluently that night than ever before. The native language is beautiful and musical and simple.

When he was half way through the minister arose and said, "I'll give up, Mr. Gardner. I'll give up, Mr. Gardner; you speak the Greek language much better than I speak Latin. I give up."

In December of 1886 he was chosen Bishop of Pine Valley with H. J. Burgess as his first counselor and Jeter Snow as his second counselor. The Bishop encouraged his people to beautify the church by painting it and beautify the town by planting trees and shrubs. He set the example of improvement and all lines of betterment of the town and people and never asked the people to do what he did not himself do.

About 1893 he was again called to New Zealand on a mission and this time spent four years. He went again in November, 1913, and in all spent about ten years in missionary work in New Zealand.





on the Arkansas river. He was appointed by Elder Wm. Crosby Nov. 17, 1846, to preside over the Saints at Fort Pueblo.

Bro. Dowdle and family and the other families of the Pueblo Company, following in the wake of the Utah Pioneers in 1847, arrived in Great Salt Lake Valley July 29, 1847, with Capt. James Brown's detachment of the Mormon Battalion, which had also wintered at Pueblo. Elder Dowdle was called to fill a mission to Australia, arriving at Sydney April 1, 1852. When Pres. Augustus Farnham sailed from Sydney May 28, 1856, he left Absalom P. Dowdle in charge of the Australasian Mission. Elder Dowdle presided until June 27, 1857, when he sailed on the ship "Lucas," homeward bound.

**FARNHAM, Augustus**, president of the Australasian Mission from 1853 to 1856, was born May 20, 1805, in Andover, Essex Co., Mass., a son of Peter and Chloe Farnham. He was baptized April 21, 1843, ordained a Seventy Aug. 17, 1845, was called to fill a mission to Australasia, arriving in Sydney April 1, 1851, on the ship "Pacific". He became president of the mission by vote April 10, 1853, and left for home May 28, 1856, on the ship "Jenny Ford." Elder Farnham died May 2, 1865, at Farmington, Utah.

**FORD, Thomas**, a local Elder, president of the Australasian Mission from May, 1858 to 1863, died in Australia in 1863 while presiding over the mission.

**GEDDES, William**, president of the Australasian Mission from 1874 to 1875, died Aug. 23, 1899, in Plain City, Utah. (See Bio. Ency., Vol. 1, p. 462.)

**GROO, Isaac**, president of the Australasian Mission from 1876 to 1877, died Jan. 24, 1895, in Salt Lake City, Utah. (See Bio. Ency., Vol. 3, p. 93.)

**GARDNER, William**, president of the Australasian Mission from 1893 to 1896, died Feb. 4, 1932, in St.



George, Utah. (See Bio. Ency., Vol. 3, p. 379.)

**MAY, Fredrick John**, president of the Australasian Mission from August to December, 1878, was born Jan. 16, 1844, in Southampton, Hampshire, England, the son of John May and Mary Lewis. Having relatives in Utah, he emigrated to America in 1866 and arrived in Salt Lake City the following year. Becoming convinced of the truth of "Mormonism", he was baptized May 6, 1868. He was ordained a Seventy Feb. 14, 1876, by Robert Patrick, and filled a mission to Australasia in 1878-1881, being appointed president Sept. 15, 1878, with Thomas A. Shreeve as his assistant. He returned to Utah in July, 1880, with a small company of Saints. He filled a mission to Arizona in 1882-1884, was ordained a High Priest Feb. 4, 1904, by David McKenzie, and died May 19, 1910, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**MURDOCK, John**, president of the Australasian Mission from 1851 to 1852, died Dec. 23, 1871, in Beaver, Utah. (See Bio. Ency., Vol. 2, p. 362.)

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them. On Dec. 12, 1894, Bishop Gardner married Sarah Jane Hill in the Salt Lake Temple. She was a daughter of Joseph Hill and Sarah Crosby and was born July 21, 1869, at Millville, Cache county, Utah. Four children have blessed this marriage, namely, Frank T., Robert Glenn, Ruth and Richard Hill.

**GARDNER, William**, Bishop and Patriarch, and a resident of St. George, Washington county, Utah, was born May 22, 1846, near Bona-



parte, Iowa, the son of Robert Gardner and Jane McEwan. Being born during the time of the exodus of the Saints from Nauvoo he crossed the plains as an infant with his parents, arriving in Salt Lake Valley Oct. 1, 1847. On the journey William, when only six months old, fell out of the wagon, the wheels of which passed over his little body, but, marvelous as it may seem, he was not hurt. The Gardner family lived in Mill Creek until 1862, when they settled in St. George, and two years later (1864) they located in Pine Valley, where William made his home until 1906 when he was called to work in the St. George Temple. Bro. Gardner was baptized in 1856

by Washington Lemmon in Mill Creek; was ordained an Elder in 1867 by his father, and ordained a High Priest by John D. T. McAllister in 1880 and set apart as second counselor to Bishop Frederick W. Jones of the Pine Valley Ward, which position he held until 1888, when he was ordained a Bishop by John W. Taylor and set apart to preside over the Pine Valley Ward. He held that office until 1893. In 1884-1887 he filled a mission to New Zealand, where he labored most successfully both among the Maoris and the whites and organized 14 branches of the Church. In 1893-1896 he filled another mission to New Zealand, during which he acted as president of the Australasian Mission. He filled a third mission to New Zealand in 1913-1916 when he presided over the New Zealand mission. Thus he filled three missions to that part of the world in ten years. From his earliest youth Elder Gardner has been a very energetic and faithful Church worker. For a number of years he acted as superintendent of the Pine Valley Sunday school and later acted as second assistant superintendent in the St. George Stake Sunday school organization. For fourteen years he acted as Stake superintendent of Religious Classes, during which time he made frequent visits to all the settlements in the St. George Stake. Since 1897 he has acted as a High Councillor in the St. George Stake. He was ordained a Patriarch by Anthony W. Ivins, March 17, 1918, and set apart as president of the High Priests' quorum in the St. George Stake in June, 1919. In 1869 (Oct. 11th) Bro. Gardner married Mary Almeda Burgess (daughter of Harrison Burgess and Amanda Hammond), who was born Feb. 8, 1851, in Salt Lake City, Utah, and became the mother of two children (Effie May and Amanda Jane); she died in December, 1881. In October, 1871, Bro.

Bsp. William Gardner

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Gardner married Mary Jane Thomas (daughter of John Thomas and Mahalia Mathews), who was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 1, 1852. She bore her husband seven children, namely, Mahalia J., William Thomas, Milton R., Mary Marie, Elizabeth, Giveneth and Robert Centennial, the last named being the one hundredth grandchild of Bro. Robert Gardner, Wm. Gardner's father).

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